

Davie, Stokes, Forsyth, & Rockingham County Child Welfare/Behavioral Health Pilot

Medicaid Transformation, Child Welfare Reform and federal Families First Act provides for unique opportunities to demonstrate innovation while continuing to strive to improve outcomes. This county collaborative provides for a pilot project that will create easier access to comprehensive health services for children in foster care by creating better continuity of care, providing an alternative to therapeutic foster care and assuring care and services are available without disrupting their foster care placement in order to have access to those services needed to treat trauma.

Purpose to demonstrate integration and partnerships between county DSS and LME/MCO that will:

- Address safety and health needs of children with the application of trauma informed tools
- Address appropriate preventive and medical care
- Address other social determinants of health specifically education and social development
- Meet the goals of Medicaid Transformation, Child Welfare Reform and the federal Families First Act
- Work across agencies
 - Private Behavioral Health Providers
 - Health Systems
 - Agencies of Social Determinants of Health
- Allows for the development of alternative funding models and service definitions
- Allow for behavioral health services to be in 131D homes with augmented 122c services
- Allows for wrap services around the child to support a singular, unified goal of children in foster care having a single placement
- Assigns dedicated care coordination to each county social services agency

The two-year pilot shall receive an appropriation of \$300,000 annually to ensure technical assistance/consultation to counties to build upon capacity and skills to utilize trauma assessments, case planning and service interventions and to evaluate the pilot to determine the viability of statewide implementation.

A report shall be made to the General Assembly no later than October 2022 that entails the following:

- average cost of providing alternatives to therapeutic foster care
- outline of enhanced services offered and developed including barriers and challenges
- outcomes achieved
- plan outlining potential for replication across other counties including cost-modeling recommendation